



ASSASSINATION GAME

# GAMBIT

PART  
1 OF 3

#17

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THE  
GAME  
BEGINS!



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REMY LEBEAU HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE OUTSIDER. ORPHANED AT BIRTH, HE WAS ADOPTED BY THE LEGENDARY THIEVES GUILD OF NEW ORLEANS, OFTEN SHUNNED BY HIS PEERS BECAUSE OF HIS STRANGE BURNING RED EYES. EVENTUALLY, HE REALIZED HE IS A MUTANT -- GIFTED AT BIRTH WITH THE ABILITY TO CHARGE INANIMATE OBJECTS WITH BIOKINETIC ENERGY THAT IS EXPLOSIVELY RELEASED! HE'S CHARMING. HE'S DEADLY. **5 T A N L E E P R E S E N T S** THE MOST MYSTERIOUS X-MAN OF ALL!

# GAMBIT



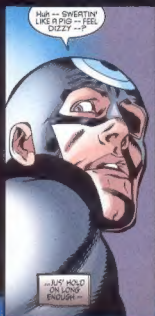
## ASSASSINATION GAME PART 1 of 3

# THE PIN CUSHION

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WHA -- P THREE  
DAREDEVIL?  
WHAT'S  
GOING ON  
HERE?



LIBEAU --  
IS THIS YOUR  
DOING?

MY  
BRAIN'S ALL  
MESS'ED  
UP...  
... CAN'T THINK  
STRAIGHT...

I'M TOO WORRIED,  
MAYBE. AH NEVER  
LOOK AT YOU ALL  
GROWN UP.

ALWAYS PICTURIN' YOU  
LIKE A BABY, CHANGIN'  
VA DIAPER --



-- OR STITCHIN' THAT CUT YA GOT  
WHEN ETIENNE, LAPIN AN'  
YOU WAS SNEAKIN' INTO SAINTS  
TRAININ' CAMP...

... HOW  
CRN I FIGHT  
THREE OF YOU  
DEVILS?

SOMETHING'S  
NOT RIGHT --

-- SWEATIN'  
A LOT --  
DIZZY --

-- IS THIS  
WORTH THE  
MIL I SIGNED  
ON FOR?





ONE MILLION?

HOW MUCH IS OUR CONTRACT FOR?

BELLA DONNA WOULD NOT SAY.

DEVILS!  
DEVILS!  
DEVILS!

BOY SEEMS TO HAVE SOME PROBLEMS WITH HIS DARED DEVIL HOMME.

LUCKY FOR US, FIOLET, ELSE I COULDN'T TWIST WHAT HE WAS GEEIN'!

YOU DID WELL, QUESTA. FIOLET'S INTRIGUIBILITY HELPED CONFUSE 'IM AN' MY MAGIC'S GOT 'IM ALL RILED UP.

... EVEN WE OF DE ASSASSIN'S GUILD.

WE GOT MAYBE SIX HOURS BEFORE THE HOOODOO WE LAID ON HIM WEARS OFF.

THEN HE GONNA COME LOOKIN' FOR PAYBACK BIG TIME.

BY THEN, WE BETTER BE LONG GONE FROM HERE.

WELL, THAT'S ALL JIM-DANDY, GRIS-GRIS, BUT NOBODY SHOULD TREAT BULLSEYE LIGHTLY...

HE'S ONE MAN, QUESTA, YOU'D MATCH HIM AGAINST A WHOLE GUILD O' KILLERS?

YOU WANT TO FIND OUT THE HARD WAY, FIOLET?



BUT ENOUGH WID BULLSEYE, GAMBIT IS OUR REAL TARGET.

YEAH, WHERE'D LEBEAU GOP

HIS FIGHT WITH BULLSEYE LEFT HIM SEVERELY WOUNDED!

HOW FAR COULD HE HAVE GOTTEN?

BLOOD TRAIL ENDS CURBSIDE.

MAYBE HE HAILED A CAB?

WE BETTER START CHECKIN' DE LOCAL HOSPITALS...



THE COMMISSION FOR  
SUPERHUMAN ACTIVITY,  
WASHINGTON D.C.

DR. VALERIE COOPER  
COMPLETES A DAILY  
BRIEFING...

MAXIMILLIAN  
ZARRAN AND GEORGES  
BATROC.

PROFESSIONAL  
MERCENARIES.

THIS IS A  
SECURITY SHOT  
FROM KENNEDY  
AIRPORT TAKEN  
TWO WEEKS  
AGO.

THEY WERE  
SUBSEQUENTLY  
CAPTURED IN UPTOWN  
NEW YORK AFTER  
HAVING ENGAGED IN  
SUPERHUMAN  
CONFLICT.

ENERGY  
RESIDUE ON THE CHARRED  
REMAINS OF  
PLAYING CARDS  
FOUND ON THEIR  
BODIES AT THE  
TIME OF THEIR  
ARREST --

WE... CONVINCED...  
THE POLICE TO RELEASE  
THEM TWO HOURS  
AGO --

-- SO WE  
COULD TAIL THEM  
AND VERIFY IF A  
CONTRACT HAS  
INDEED BEEN PLACED  
ON GAMBIT'S LIFE.  
BOTH CRIMINALS  
ARE NOW IN  
REAPPROPRIATION.

WE  
WON'T INTERFERE --  
FOR NOW -- BUT AN  
AGENT HAS BEEN  
ASSIGNED TO  
CONTINUE THE TAIL --

-- FEDERAL  
AGENT CARL  
DENTI.

-- INDICATE  
THEY WERE IN COMBAT  
WITH THE MUTANT  
KNOWN AS GAMBIT.

IN THE LOWER  
WEST SIDE OF  
MANHATTAN...

WE GOT  
LUCKY!

SOMETIMES,  
LAPIN, LUCK IS  
JUST THE FLIP  
SIDE OF  
FATE.

MERCY IS CRYPTIC, AS  
USUAL. BITTER. CAN  
SAY I BLAME HER.

THEY'S NOT MUCH  
LEFT OF TH' NEW  
ORLEANS THIEVES  
GUILD...

-- BUT I WATCH  
OVER THEM AS A  
TRAITEUR, DEAR  
EMIL... MY HEART...

-- BUT ALSO AS A  
MOTHER FIGURE  
T' SO MANY OF THESE  
CHILDREN WHO NEVER  
HAD MOTHERS.

I AM TANTE MATTIE.  
AN' DIS IS ALL AT'S  
LEFT OF THE CHILDREN.



THEOREN MARCEAUX --  
HARVEST MASTER.



GENARD ALOUETTE --  
HARVEST DISSEMINATOR.



ZOE ISHIMARA.



EMIL LAPIN.



MERCY LEBEAU --  
RENNY'S SISTER-IN-LAW.



CLAUDE POITIER.



IS MORE 'N LUCK,  
EMIL... TH' WOUND  
IS CLOSIN' UP ALL  
BY H'YSELF!

IS A  
MIRACLE!  
PRAISE DE  
LORD.

LORD WOULDRA  
TOU' DE FOOL  
NOT T' WEAR A  
BIG 'X' ON HIS  
CHEST LIKE A  
TARGET!

MERCY...!





NO  
DISRESPECT  
INTENDED, TANTE  
MATTIE, BUT IT'S  
NO ACT OF  
GOD --

SLSS

-- REMY'S  
MUTANT  
POWERS ARE  
SAVING  
HIM!

REMY WAS  
ALWAYS GOOD FOR  
CHARGIN' UP A CARD OR  
SOMESONE'S SEAT CUSHION...  
BUT DIS IS A BIT BEYOND  
HIM, ISN'T IT, THEOREN?

WE ALL KNOW HE HAS  
CHANGED SINCE HIS  
RETURN FROM THE  
DEADLIFE MISSION,  
LAPIN.

IN ORDER  
TO TRAVEL BACK  
TO OUR PRESENT  
TIME, REMY DID --  
SOMETHING --  
TO ENHANCE  
HIS MUTANT  
POWERS.

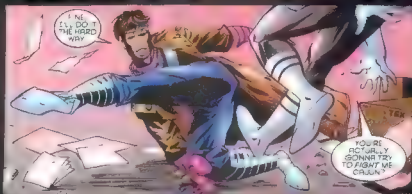
WHATEVER TH'  
CHILD DID, ZOE,  
HE DID FOR HIS  
PERE... AN' HIS  
GUILD.

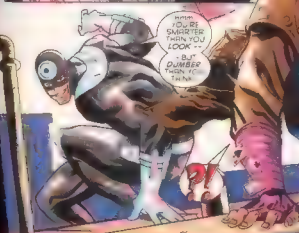
AN' HE  
HAS TRIED  
T' DO GOD'S  
WORK.

WHICH  
RAISES TH'  
QUESTION --  
AGAIN -- WHO HIRED  
THE ASSASSINS  
GUILD OF NAWLINS  
T' KILL MY  
BROTHER-  
IN-LAW --

-- AN' MORE  
IMPORTANTLY --  
WHY?







SO NO  
MATTER HOW  
GOOD YOU  
ARE --  
-- I'M  
ALWAYS  
BETTER!



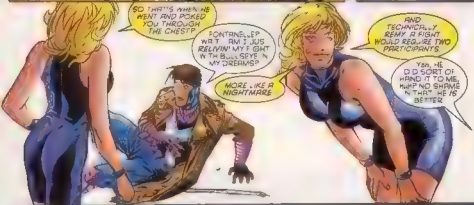
SO THAT'S WHEN HE  
WENT AND POKED  
YOU THROUGH  
THE CHEST?

FONTANELLEP  
WAT AM I JUS  
RELIVIN' MY FIGHT  
N TH BULL SEYE N  
MY DREAMS?

MORE LIKE A  
NIGHTMARE

AND  
TECHNICALLY  
REMY A FIGHT  
WOULD REQUIRE TWO  
PARTICIPANTS

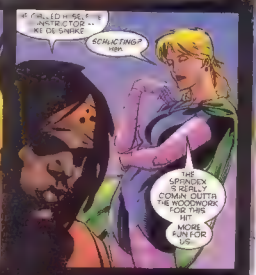
Yea, HE  
DD SORT OF  
HAND IT TO ME,  
HAPP NO SHAME  
N THAT HE IS  
BETTER

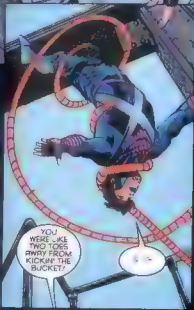














I'D  
LIKE TO SEE  
THAT DAREDEVIL  
FREAK HEAR  
MY COILS  
NOW!

I'D  
SQUEEZE  
THE SNOT OUT  
OF HIM... LIKE I'M  
GONNA DO  
TO YOU!

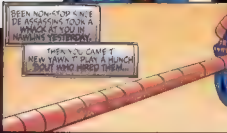


YOU  
GOT ISSUES,  
FRANK.

RR  
NOT THE  
TEETH



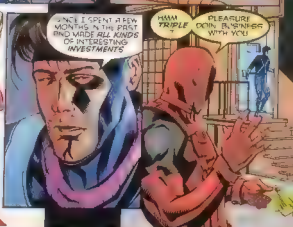
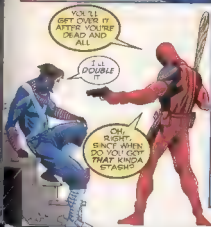
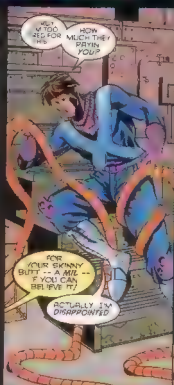
IS THAT A  
FIGHT YOU JOE  
LEFT IN YOU AT DIS  
POINT, REMY?



BEEN NON-STOP SINCE  
DE ASSASSINS TOOK A  
WHACK AT YOU IN  
NARROWS YESTERDAY.

THEN YOU CAN'T  
NEW YAWN T' PLAY A MUNCH  
ABOUT WHO HIRED THEM...

ONLY T'ING  
WHOEVER T' WAS  
HAD HIRED A WHOLE  
LOTTA PEOPLE  
T' KILL YOU!



IT'S NOT JUST HOW MUCH FIGHT YOU GOT LEFT IN YOU, BOY... BUT HOW MUCH DESIRE YOU GOT T' WIN.

AH WAS DERE LAST TIME YOUR POWERS KICKED IT UP A NOTCH.

AH KNOW DE KINDA CHOICES YOU HADDA MAKE T' DEAL WIT WHAT DEY DID TO YOU...

...AND THE DEALS YOU HAD T' MAKE T' GET RID OF DEM.

SO NOW YOU HAD T' BEG DE DEVIL AGAIN T' PUT THOSE POWERS BACK INTO YOU IN ORDER T' GET HOME.

FINE.

GOTTA DO WHAT YOU GOTTA DO.

BUT CAN YOU HANDLE 'EM DIS TIME 'ROUND, REMY?

YOU WILLIN' T' LET GO OF YO' FEARS -- LET GO OF YO' MORALS?



GOD, AH HOPE NOT. S' WHAT MAKES YOU HUMAN.



... JACK FARLEY?! \*

WALKED AWAY FROM OUR LITTLE SCORCH WITH TH' X-GLUTTONER ANY TOOK HIS ALIEN TOYS WITH YOU, I SEE!

THAT I DID, LIBEAU -- BUT THE NAME IS NOW --

**FIREBALLS!**



REMEMBER HIM FROM X-MEN: THE MOVIE? RASTER-BOO







ALL THE RECENT SUPERHUMAN ACTIVITY RAISED A FEW FLAGS AT CSA.

BESIDES, I'VE BEEN... FOLLOWING YOUR -- Uhm -- CAREER -- FOR SOME TIME NOW.

REALLY? WHAT PART WAS YOUR FAVORITE -- MY GLAM ROCK PHASE OR THE JOE JACKSON MINIMALIST APPROACH?

YOUR REFERENCES ARE COMPLETELY LOST ON ME.



WELL, AT LEAST THIS ELIMINATES THE AWKWARD SILENCE THAT WOULD FOLLOWED BETWEEN US.

WOW, THIS IS THE LAST GUY IN THE WORLD I EXPECTED TO COME AFTER YOU...

YOUR DEATH, LIBEAU, WILL COME AT THE HANDS OF -- **THE X-CUTIONER!**



DE BURDEN OF DE WORLD IS ALWAYS ON YOU, REMY.

ANY CHOICE MADE AVAILABLE T' YOU IS ALWAYS A HARD ONE.

WHAT LENGTHS WILL YOU GO T' SURVIVE, REMY?

DO ANY OF 'EM EVEN REALIZE THE DANGER DEY'RE IN IF DEY PUSH YOU TOO FAR?

DO ANY OF 'EM KNOW EVERYTING DAT CROSSES YO' PATH IS ONLY ALIVE 'CAUSE YOU CHOOSE T' LET 'EM STAY DAT WAY?

LORD HELP DEM -- AN' YOU REMY LIBEAU -- IF YOU DECIDE OTHERWISE...

**NEXT:  
BRING THE SOUP  
BOWLS OVER!  
X-CUTIONER!  
FIREBALLS!  
BATROC!  
ZARAN  
The ASSASSINS  
GUILD!  
DEADPOOL!  
AND A FEW FUN  
SURPRISES!**